

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**(Case No. 00,450)**

**PATENT**

**In re Application of:   Polverino et al.**       )  
  )  
**Serial No.:    09/599,087**                    )  
  )  
**Filed:    June 21, 2000**                    )  
  )  
**For:    Secreted Epithelial Colon Stromal-1** )  
          **Molecules and Uses Thereof**        )

**Before the Examiner:   S. Rawlings**

**Group Art Unit:   1642**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO PROPOSED EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT FAXED MAY 9, 2002**

Responsive to the Proposed Examiner's Amendment, transmitted by facsimile on May 9, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and remarks. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the proposed amendments to the claims that were provided in the Proposed Examiner's Amendment and for helpful discussions provided in telephone communications with Applicants' representatives on May 9, 2002 and May 15, 2002, which have materially advanced prosecution of this application.

During discussions with the Examiner on May 15, 2002, Applicants learned that the Examiner would not be in the office on May 16, 2002, and would return to the office on May 17, 2002. As the instant response is being provided by facsimile on May 16, 2002, Applicants believe that the Examiner will actually receive this paper at the same time as if it had been transmitted earlier, and will have sufficient time to respond to Applicants' amendment filed February 11, 2002. Applicants' representative is available by telephone for the entirety of the period between this response and June 11, 2002 to provide any information or assistance the Examiner requires.

**AMENDMENTS**

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments.